

THE ROBIN

Official Matchday Programme of Clanfield 85 FC



CLANFIELD 85
v
SHORTWOOD UTD



SATURDAY 25TH
JANUARY 2025
3:00pm KO



UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE
DIVISION ONE



Clanfield 85 FC
Radcot Road
Clanfield
Oxfordshire
OX18 2ST
01993 840941

CLUB DIRECTORY

Hon Life Presidents John Osborne & Geoff Collett

Hon Vice Presidents Dave Hunt & Sally Hunt

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Secretary Pete Osborne

Treasurer Geoff Mills

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Club Safety Officer Position Vacant

Groundsman John Hornsby

First Team Manager Jamie Butt

First Team Assistant Craig Connor

First Team Coach Jamie Zoldan

First Team Coach Ryan Pratley

Reserve Team Manager Adam Major

Club Physio Ben Nicholls

Under 15 Manager John Mclaughlin

Under 15 Assistant Duncan Fitzgerald

Under 15 Robins Manager James Minion

Under 15 Robins Assistant Konrad Howlett

Under 14 Manager Danny MacDonogh

Under 14 Assistant Jamie Butt

Under 13 Girls Manager John Mclaughlin

Under 12 Manager Neil Barrett

Under 11 Manager Lee Thornett

Under 11 Assistant Kevin Lewis

Matchday Catering Angie Fisher

Welcome to Radcot Road



Good afternoon and welcome to this afternoons Hellenic League encounter with Shortwood United.

We returned to winning ways last Saturday when we beat Southam United away (at home) comfortably with a 3-0 win - Jordan, Woody and Fin with the goals.

Today we face Shortwood United as we look to avenge a 2-0 defeat in the reverse fixture. Shortwood were very impressive that day and put together a great run of wins and currently sit 2 places and 3 points in front of with a game in hand.

We have a break from league action on Tuesday when we face the long midweek trip to Lydney in the Challenge Cup before a return to league action with a trip to Chipping Sodbury next Saturday.

Enjoy the game.



The FA Respect Code of Conduct

SPECTATORS

We all bear a collective responsibility to set a good example and help provide a positive environment in which children can learn and enjoy the game. Play your part and observe The FA's Respect Code of Conduct for spectators at all times.

I WILL:

- Remember that Under 18's and vulnerable adults maybe at the game
- Applaud effort and good play as well as success
- Respect the Referee's decisions even when you don't agree with them
- Appreciate good play from whatever team it comes from
- Remain behind the touchline and within the Designated Spectators' Area
- Let the coach do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition, referee and match officials
- Support positively and offer players encouragement not criticism
- Never engage in, or tolerate offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken:

I MAY BE:

- Issued with a verbal warning from a club or league official
- Required to meet with the club, league or CFA Welfare Officer
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Obligated to undertake an FA education course
- Obligated to leave the match venue by the club
- Requested by the club not to attend future games
- Suspended or have my club membership removed
- Required to leave the club along with any dependents.

IN ADDITION:

- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and/or suspension on the club.



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Club History

Clanfield Football Club was founded in 1890 and for many years played in the Witney & District League. Two years were spent in the North Berks League in the 1960's and for 1967-68 season the club joined the Hellenic League.

Clanfield's first game in the Hellenic League was on the 19th August 1967 against Hungerford Town in front of an attendance of 146. In 1969-70 the club won the Hellenic Division One Championship and were promoted to the Premier Division for the first time.

In 1971-72 they missed out on the Runners-Up position only on goal average but went on to secure the Runner-Up spot for the next two seasons also winning the Premier Division Challenge Cup in 1973-74. In 1974-75 the Club reached the Final of the Oxfordshire Senior Cup. The first game ended in a draw after extra time, but Pressed Steel won the replay. 1975-76 saw a repeat of the Cup run to the Final but again Clanfield ended up losing Finalists. After a great period through the 60s and 70s they were relegated to Division One at the end of the 1979-80 Season. However, the Club soon bounced back finishing in second place the following season. At the end of the 1984-85 Season they were once again relegated to Division One where they have remained ever since.

The Club re-entered the FA Vase in 2006 when Buckingham Athletic were visitors to Radcot Road, in a game Clanfield won 1-0. The club won the Jim Newman Memorial Cup in 1978 & 2018 and have been finalists in recent staging of the same event and won the Faringdon Memorial Cup in 1996-97 and 2016-17. Season 2010-11 saw the club finish in fourth place in Division One West and narrowly miss out on promotion to the Premier Division.

The Club have recently adopted a positive youth policy. The Under 18 Team have won the Allied Counties Youth League Central Division and last season their County Cup Competition. The previous season, 2016-17 the Under 17 Team won the Oxfordshire Invitation Youth League Division B whilst the Under 16 Team won their County Cup Competition.


For the 2020-21 season former player Jamie Butt alongside Chris Blakley and Martin Staddon continued as the first team management, with Gary Brown joining them. The season was looking very positive but again was curtailed by the Corona Virus Pandemic.

There was a management restructure for the 2021-22 season with Andy Lyne joining the club as the first Director of Football. Chris Blakely and Martin Staddon stood down from their First Team commitment and the club thanks them both for all their effort over their time with Jamie. Following a nasty injury whilst playing elsewhere, Jordi Mulvany returned to the club as First Team Coach. The season was a success for the club as Clanfield finished third in Division One, losing out in the semi final to Hereford Pegasus who went on to secure promotion in the final against Worcester Raiders. They were also losing semi-finalists in the Challenge Cup as they went out 1-0 to the eventual winners Cribbs FC.

For the 2022-23 season Craig Connor stepped into the First Team Assistant role after deciding to step away from the rigours of playing. The club enjoyed success in the pre-season retaining the Jim Newman Trophy and winning it for the third time in recent years beating Cropredy 8-1 in the final. Clanfield finished the season in fourth place, securing a Play-Off berth for the second season running this time against Milton United. This time the Robins lost out on penalties, with Milton going on to secure promotion on penalties over Hartpury University.

The coming season sees Shaun Morgan joining the coaching staff as Jamie and Craig continue at the helm. Pre-season has been promising with the club winning the Jim Newman Trophy for the third year running. The club wishes the players and managers all the best for the season.



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MEET THE PLAYERS



Joined the club as a 16 year old, part of the clubs FA YOUTH CUP side that got to the first round. Excellent shot stopper. A Clanfield lad

Luke Haley
Goalkeeper



Young goalkeeper, product of Clanfield U16's side. Great technique

Reuben Pratley
Goalkeeper



New signing from Cheltenham Saracens. Exciting attacking fullback or wingback. Previous club Moreton Rangers.

Kian Burrows
Defender



New signing from Long Crendon. Aggressive, forward thinking fullback or wingback. Caught the eye when playing against us last season.

Jordan Cavender
Defender



Can play anywhere along the back four, most consistent player at the club. Came through the youth team, captain this season.

Ben Weller
Defender



New signing from Faringdon Town, having made the switch over the bridges. Strong centre half who will chip in with a few goals.

Liam Hares
Defender



New signing from Shrivenham, comfortable on the ball and bags a page. Has impressed in pre-season.

Charlie Trinder-Sage
Defender



First season of men's football, has impressed in pre season. Played for the Under 16's side last season.

Theo Tyson
Defender



Rolls-Royce of a player, neat and tidy on the ball. Has great energy, third season with the club.

Dylan Kay
Midfield



Heartbeat of the midfield with his relentless work rate. Chips in with a few goals, fashion icon of the club.

Tom Taylor
Midfield



MEET THE PLAYERS



Young player returning to the club. Bags of energy, looking to break into the side.

Jay Cant
Midfield



New signing from Long Crendon, has a great passing range in midfield.

Zac Rice
Midfield



Versatile midfield player, always has kind words for the opposition. His season gets going once cricket has finished.

Connor Tinsley
Midfield



Returning to the club this season after a season away at uni. Can play anywhere across the back line and midfield.

Jack Fletcher
Midfield



Tough, tackling midfielder with a good eye for a pass. Second season with the club.

Rhys King
Midfield



The Radcot Road's faithful, favourite player. Skill, pace, has the lot - big season ahead.

Reuban Harry
Forward



Brilliant first season at the club, top goalscorer. Creates goals and links up the play.

Tyger Hall
Forward



Has a left foot like Roy Race of Melchester Rovers. On his day unplayable, could play any position on the pitch.

Nathan Kimber
Forward



Out and out goal scorer, has scored goals at all his previous clubs - Carterton, North Leigh and Evesham.

George Seacole
Forward



Exciting new signing, a great character. Can play across all the front positions.

Tete Brewster
Forward



Jamie Wyatt
Forward

Now in the twilight of his career, you wouldn't notice. Great pace and brilliant crosser of the ball.



MEET THE MANAGEMENT



Jamie Butt
Manager

Jamie has established himself as a strong manager who gives youth a chance when the time is right. He has built a strong squad and will be looking to build on last two seasons achievements.



Craig Connor
Assistant

Craig joined the management team from the playing squad. He brings a wealth of experience that will prove valuable to the management setup.



Ryan Pratley
Coach

Ryan joins the management team this season. Experienced player at this level in his playing days and also played for the club



Ben Nicholls
Physio

Ben joins the management team as matchday physio. First season as a physio, good addition to the team.



Jamie Zoldan
Coach

Former goalkeeper for Clanfield. Has returned to the club this season as a coach.

Who will you be today?



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THE HISTORY OF
SHORTWOOD UNITED

Shortwood United Football Club was formed in 1900 and since then have played at 4 different grounds, Nailsworth Playing Field, Table Land, Wallow Green and finally at our current ground, Meadowbank.

The club has been at Meadowbank since 1972, and includes an all weather training area opened by the late Ted Croker. Gradual improvements over the years culminated in a major enhancement in 2009 to meet ground grading criteria for any future promotions.

League football was commenced in the Stroud League where following continued success during the 1970s promotion was gained to the Northern Senior and then the Gloucestershire County League. Promotion to the Hellenic league was achieved in 1981 only to be relegated in our first season but finishing runners up the following year ensured promotion straight back. In 1983 we won the Hellenic Division One Cup and GFA Trophy and in the following year won the Hellenic League. It was a further six years until success was realised again when the treble of League winners, GFA Trophy and Stroud Charity Cup was completed.

The 2007/08 season started a resurgence in Shortwood's fortunes in finishing 5th in the league and winning the supplementary cup, defeating Ardley 4-2 in the final. The subsequent season pushed our success even further when following a good run in the FA Cup and semi finalists in the League Cup, we pressed the eventual Champions Hungerford to the final day of the season where we lost out on goal difference after amassing 99 pts and scoring 99 goals. Shortwood's fine form continued into the next season when they again finished second in the league to Almondsbury, and runners up in the GFA Trophy again to Almondsbury, had good FA Cup and Vase runs and reached the final of the Floodlit cup. Having lost the away leg 3-0 to Reading Town they produced one of the most exciting comebacks and entertaining matches ever seen at Meadowbank where the score remained at 0-0 till the 67th minute when the deadlock was broken and Shortwood ran out 5-0 winners (AET).

Shortwood's league campaign in 2011 was a disappointment by their own high standards, but more silverware was added in the shape of the GFA Trophy after a 1-0 win over Tuffley Rovers in the final.

2011-12 season, however, was pivotal in the Club's history! Not only did they reach the quarter final of the FA Vase, they also reached the final of the Hellenic League Floodlit Cup and the GFA Trophy Final. Most important was their league position where they finished 2nd by 1 point behind Oxford City Nomads. With Nomad's not applying for promotion, and with Shortwood filling all the relevant criteria, they were promoted to the Southern League for the first time in their history!

The 2012-13 season was again a successful one. Following a disappointing early exit from the FA cup the club had a good run in the FA Trophy including a magnificent away victory at premier league side Weymouth on the way. In their first season in the Southern League they finished a creditable eighth position.

The 2013-14 season saw Shortwood progress further in the FA Cup than ever before! Early wins over Egham and Aylesbury put them up against Conference South outfit Dorchester and a 1-0 away win, and a further 1-0 win at Didcot put them into uncharted waters of the fourth qualifying round where they drew Conference side Aldershot at Meadowbank. A late, but deserved, equaliser gave them a replay and a heroic 2-1 win sparked wild celebrations. A home draw pitted Shortwood against League 1 side Port Vale in front of a record crowd of 1,247 plus a live television audience courtesy of BT Sport. Shortwood bowed out - but with the plaudits their cup run earned ringing in their ears.

The league season was also highly successful with a sixth placed finish, one point outside the play-off positions.

2014-15 failed to reach the heights of the previous season with many players moving on to higher things but for most of the season a play-off place looked possible until a decline in form towards the end of the season resulted in an 11th place finish.

2015 -16 continued Shortwood's continued stability in the Southern League as they finished the season 7th in the table with 78 points and the end of the season saw the end of an era as joint Manager John Evans retired after 20 seasons involvement with Shortwood - and the club moved forward with Alex Sykes now in sole charge.

2016-17 was a strange season with the Wood exiting the FA Cup and the FA Trophy at the first hurdle and showing inconsistent league form but despite that they managed to finish a more than respectable 9th.

Paul 'Des' Meredith took over the management reins at the start of season 2017-18.

In 2017 -18 the club had an excellent run in the FA Trophy and produced some excellent results in the league interspersed with some heavy defeats but this was only to be expected with a very young side - but throughout the year they strived to play football the Shortwood way. After Christmas Shortwood faced a difficult dilemma. The ever increasing demands of the FA around ground gradings and the loss of their major sponsor left the club with no choice but to resign from the Southern League and they applied to the FA to be placed in the Toolstation Western League and they were successful in that application. Des Meredith did not feel that he could carry on with a complete rebuild of the side and departed and the club moved on with Jason Scrivens and Joey Tustain taking the helm. They did a tremendous job getting a squad together in next to no time in almost impossible circumstances.

Shortwood finished bottom of the Toolstation Premier in 2018-19 and we were relegated and moved to the Hellenic Div 1 West, but the future is more optimistic than for a very long time. Shortwood's two youth sides enjoyed an incredibly successful season and with the reintroduction of a Development side for season 2019 / 20 the club was building and giving young local players a complete chance to progress. Mat Blythe was added as joint manager with Jason Scrivens, and Simon Blythe was added as 1st team Coach. While Chris Hicks and Shane Mathews took the reins of the Development side.

The COVID pandemic saw the cancellation of the season 2019 20 in March 2020 with the first team lying in a healthy 4th place in the league and the development team beginning to show some late form. During the enforced break Mat Blythe became sole first team manager, while Jason Scrivens took the reins of the now Shortwood Reserves side with Will Dunn coming as Coach. Season 20-21 was also curtailed and hardly ever got going. Shortwood retained most of last season's squad and added a few exciting additions. They also strengthened the Management team with Neil Long coming in as number two and Josh Loveridge as 1st Team Coach. Rich Cullimore took the reins as Reserve team manager. With the club also starting an Under 18 side in the floodlit league Jason Scrivens moved up as Director of Football overseeing the whole club. In 21-22 Wood never fulfilled their potential and towards the end of the season Wood made the decision to replace the first team management and Ian Soule came in with a wealth of experience behind him and Lewis Fogg came in as his number two.

**TODAY'S
VISITORS**

SHORTWOOD UNITED

With Ian and Foggy departing at the end of season 22 - 23 the club wasted no time in appointing Dan Gillespie, Matt Tunley, Andrew Moody and Marcus Foxwell. They recruited well and retained skipper Joe Tryner and Wood faithful Fin Byrnes. The club appointed Will Dunn, Matt Fanstone and Tim Butler to run the Reserves plying their trade in the Stroud League Division 1. This was a positive step with the Reserves playing more locally giving an opportunity for younger players to cut their teeth in adult football. Last but not least the club appointed Toby Colliver and Ollie Elliott from last season's U18's to run this year's U18's. When Dan Gillespie left unexpectedly to take up a place at Supermarine the club moved quickly to promote from within with Marcus Foxwell taking the manager role. Matt Tunley left at the end of the 23-24 season to take up a position with Ledbury Town.

So on to the current 24-25 season Foxy and Moodz are leading the first team in their Hellenic Division 1 campaign, Matt Fanstone has taken on the role as Manager of the Reserves and Bayley Evanson has joined the U18s coaching team with continuity being the key to success as the club moves forward into this season.

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MALCOLM'S MEMORIES

MALCOLM CLARKE



We welcome Shortwood United to Clanfield for today's league game, Last season Shortwood finished 9th in the league with their best result being a 5-1 victory against FC Bristol. Last season we won both the league matches between the teams 2-0 with Nathan Kimber and Reuben Harry scoring the goals in the game at Clanfield and Nathan Kimber and Reuben Harry scoring at Shortwood. At the time of writing this they had won 11, drawn 2 and lost 5 of their league games this season, with four of their defeats coming against teams below them in the table. Earlier in the season they beat us 2-0 at Shortwood with Dominik Kent scoring the goals, one in each half.

In 2022/23 Shortwood finished 9th in the league with the best goal difference of any team finishing outside the playoffs. They started the season well with victories in the first three games including a 1-0 victory against Clanfield on the opening day thanks to a goal from Jake Rhodes in the second half. I was there at the return fixture which finished 2-2.

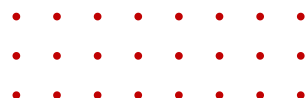
In the match at Clanfield in 2022/23 Rhodes was again on the scoresheet netting at the end of the first half, before Cam Pirie from a long Ryan Moore throw and Nathan Kimber giving Clanfield a second half lead, only for Joe Wilton to score a last minute leveller for Shortwood. At the time it was thought that this last minute goal could allow Shortwood to obtain a playoff place at our expense, but in the end we finished 18 points ahead of them, with Shortwood picking up only 1 point from the 6 games immediately prior to winning their final game of the season in the second half. Previous league games between Clanfield and the Shortwood United first team have produced the following results (Clanfield score first) 1982/83 H3-0 A2-1 1984/85 H1-3 A2-4, 2019/20 A1-0, 2020/21 H2-2 A5-1, 2021/22 A0-1, 2022/23 H2-2 A5-1, 2022/23 H2-2 A0-1, 2023/24 H2-0 A2-0, 2024/25 A 0-2 although we have played them several times in cup competition since then. We were also in the same division as their reserve team from 2013/14 to 2017/18 although in the last of these seasons Shortwood Reserves withdrew from the league before the end of season and so the results did not count.



In 2021/22 we won 5-1 at Shortwood with Kyle Chester and Jamie Wyatt scoring first half goals and Zak Oliver scoring a second half hat-trick and Luke Siule scoring a consolation goal for Shortwood. The match at Clanfield that season was drawn 2-2, with Shortwood scoring the first and last goals of the game through Joseph Tryner with our goals coming from a Jack Bellenger header and Declan Shepperd with Zak Oliver setting up both goals.. Shortwood finished 12th in 2021/22 last season, but their results included home wins against eventual champions Studley and playoff winners Hereford Pegasus. The success against Hereford Pegasus was their fourth league win in a row and they also drew the away fixture with Hereford Pegasus 3-3.

In the 2019/20 season Shortwood won 3-1 on this ground in an F A Cup tie with us going into the interval 1-0 ahead through Zac Oliver heading home a Josh Gibbens free kick, but Shortwood scored 3 goals in 3 minutes to turn the match around with Troy Budd scoring twice with one of his goals coming from the penalty spot and Joe Wilton scoring the other. However we got revenge in the league winning 1-0 at Shortwood with Gibbens this time setting up Jozef Fullerton to score the only goal of the game in the second half.

Shortwood were in fact a Hellenic League Premier Division club from 1984/85 to 2011/12 inclusive and in that time were champions twice and runners up six times. In 2012 they joined the Southern League and for the first five seasons finished in the top half of the table, but a less successful 2017/18 season saw them withdraw from the league at the end of the campaign. In 2018/19 they played in the Toolstation Western League Premier Division where a disastrous campaign saw them finish bottom of the table with only 1 league win and at the end of it they were relegated into this division.





Prior to joining the Hellenic League they played in the Gloucestershire County League, a competition they joined in 1975/76 and from 1979/80 to 1981/82 they were champions once and runners up twice. They have also played in the Stroud and District and Gloucestershire Northern Senior League and have in addition been successful in the Gloucestershire F A Trophy.

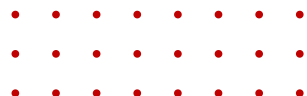
I did not see the F A Cup match between the clubs in 2019//20, but did see the Shortwood first team play at Winchester in both the 2016/17 and 2017.18 seasons and the reserves play at Radcot Road in 2017.

Shortwood were in fourth place with 11 wins, 6 draws and 4 losses from 23 league games in the truncated 2019/20 season, , while in 2020/21 they won 2, drew 2 and lost 4 of their 8 league games before play stopped. .

In 2013/14 the Shortwood first team made history by reaching the first round proper of the F A Cup for the first time and playing Port Vale in a televised tie. To achieve this they won away games at Aylesbury, Dorchester, Didcot and Aldershot. The victory at Aldershot was after a replay, with Lawson who scored against Clanfield that season coming on as a substitute in the 84th minute and scoring the equalizer 6 minutes later despite being an Aldershot fan.

I was due to see Shortwood play for the first time at Hounslow in the 1986/87 season, but fog meant they were unable to leave Gloucestershire and so the match was not played.

Malcolm



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